

REMARKS

Claims pending in the instant application are numbered 1-30. Claims 1-30 presently stand rejected. Claims 15, 16, 20 and 21 have been amended. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

Claims 16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 15-16 and 20-21 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request the instant § 112 rejections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102 and § 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17-20, 22-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schell et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,314,520. Claims 2, 11 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schell in view of Circello et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0061461. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schell in view of Rapp U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2001/0014036.

Claim 1 expressly recites “wherein the first switch unit to output data stored by one control register of the first plurality of control registers as a function of the data loaded in the first control register.” (emphasis added). Thus, claim 1 expressly recites a first switch unit.

The expressly recited first switch unit to output data stored by one control register of the first plurality of control registers as a function of the data loaded in the first control register.

Schell is directed to a trusted workstation in a networked client/server computing system. Schell discloses a protected receive low address enforcement register 90 and a protected receive high address enforcement register 92 (col. 4, lines 61-62). A comparator 100 receives the trusted low and high addresses and the address of a received packet (col. 5, lines 9-16). The comparator outputs a control signal on line 107 which enables the received packet to be forwarded onto a data bus 62 (col. 5, lines 17-20). The comparator 100 does not output data from either register 90 or 92.

Additionally, the Examiner states on page 3 of the instant Office Action, that the first switch unit (software/internal logic with reference 20 and 14) outputs data to reference 100. However, in Schell, data is outputted from both registers 90 and 92 to comparator 100 regardless of the data in another register (col. 5, lines 9-16). Thus, Schell fails to disclose, teach, or fairly suggest “wherein the first switch unit to output data stored by one control register of the first plurality of control registers as a function of the data loaded in the first control register” as expressly claimed in the Applicants’ invention.

Circello is directed to a system having user programmable addressing modes. Circello discloses a multiplexer 68 to receive three input signals from registers 70-72 and 2 bits of an input address at a control input of the multiplexer (page 2, paragraph 0013 and Figure 2). However, Circello does not disclose that the input address at the control input is received from a control register. Also, Circello fails to disclose that the registers 70-72 are to be “unloadable until the circuit is reset again” as expressly claimed by the Applicants (Circello, page 2, paragraph 0015). Thus, Circello fails to disclose, teach, or fairly suggest

“wherein the first switch unit to output data stored by one control register of the first plurality of control registers as a function of the data loaded in the first control register” as expressly claimed in the Applicants’ invention.

Rapp is directed to a lock bit for an electrically erasable memory word. However, Rapp fails to disclose, teach, or fairly suggest “wherein the first switch unit to output data stored by one control register of the first plurality of control registers as a function of the data loaded in the first control register” as expressly claimed in the Applicants’ invention.

Therefore, Schell, Circello and Rapp, whether taken singularly or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or fairly suggest at least one of the expressly recited limitations of the Applicants’ invention as presently claimed. Accordingly, the present invention would not be anticipated nor rendered obvious by the cited references. Independent claims 10, 17, 22, 25 and 28 distinguish for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-9, 11-16, 18-21, 23-24, 26-27 and 29-30 are dependent claims and distinguish for at least the same reasons as their independent base claims in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 102 and § 103 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

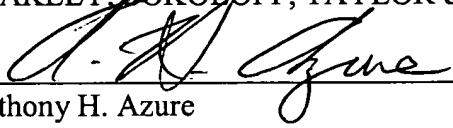
The Applicants respectfully submit that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance in this case.

Charge Deposit Account

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fee(s) that may be due in this matter, and please credit the same deposit account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: 8-29-03

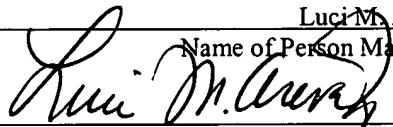


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